## **REMARKS**

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of this application, as amended.

Without concession as to the propriety of the outstanding rejection, indicated allowable Claims 15 and 16 have been placed into independent form including the features of the claims from which they depended. Claims 23-24 and 28-29 depend from either independent Claim 15 or 16. With all remaining claims having been cancelled, a prompt Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner believe that any further action is necessary to place this application in better form for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' representative at the telephone number listed below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge to Deposit Account No. 50-1165 (T2147-906524) any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17 that may be required by this paper and to credit any overpayment to that Account. If any extension of time is required in connection with the filing of this paper and has not been separately requested, such extension is hereby requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: April 5, 2006

Edward J. Kondracki Reg. No. 20,604

Jason H. Vick Reg. No. 45,285

Miles & Stockbridge, P.C. 1751 Pinnacle Drive Suite 500 McLean, Virginia 22102-3833 (703) 903-9000